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FRANK P. PRAGER
Associate General Counsel



**NEW CENTURY
ENERGIES™**

**PUBLIC SERVICE
COMPANY OF COLORADO™**

**SOUTHWESTERN
PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY™**

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By Telecopy

October 28, 1997

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Enforcement Attorney
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region VIII
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Loveland, CO 80538

Sheila Burns
Colorado Department of Public
Health and Environment
Air Pollution Control Division
4300 Cherry Creek Dr. S
Denver, CO 80220-1530

Re: Lake Thomas

Dear Nancy, Stan and Sheila:

As you know, since our meeting last month, Public Service Company of Colorado ("PSCo") has been working with the Weld County Health Department ("Weld") to prepare an enforceable mechanism to guide construction of new water treatment equipment at Lake Thomas. Enclosed is draft "notice of abatement" that we have prepared jointly with Weld to fulfill that goal. In preparing this document, both Weld and PSCo attempted to anticipate some of the issues that we think will be of concern to you while preserving rights and defenses that are important to each party.

Please note that Woodward Clyde, PSCo's consultant, has not yet completed a detailed construction schedule for this project. Under the enclosed draft, PSCo will submit such a schedule within 45 days of executing the notice. As you can see, the notice would require PSCo to commence operation of the new water treatment system before June 1, 1998.

FILED
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DENVER, CO

Nancy A. Mangone, Esq.
Stanley T. Matsunaka
Sheila Burns
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Please call me if you have any questions or concerns regarding the enclosed document. Unless recent technical discussions with EPA staff force a delay, we plan on executing a final version of the notice as soon as we have received input from each of you.

Very Truly Yours,



Frank P. Prager
Attorney for Public Service Company
of Colorado

cc: Jeffrey L. Stoll, Weld County Health Department
Marty Block, Fort St. Vrain
Olon Plunk, NCE Environmental Services
Terry Staley, NCE Environmental Services